

CHAMBER OF BOROUGH COUNCIL
Shoemakersville Borough

September 4, 2018

President Kline called the monthly meeting of the Shoemakersville Borough Council to order in the St. Luke's Church Hall, 5th & Franklin Sts., Shoemakersville, PA at 7:03 p.m.

In attendance: Chris Kline – President, Amy Botwright –Vice President, Steve Gilbert, Dana Smith – arrived at 7:27 p.m., John Leshner, Keith Mooney – Solicitor, Bradley Smith – Engineer, and Melissa Wagner – Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent from the meeting: Joseph Wertz, Jr., Tara Kennedy-Kline, and Dustin Remp

Public Comment

Richard Geschwindt (603 Reber St.): Asks for the water test results, with Ms. Wagner stating that Suburban Labs tested the water on August 1 at the sewer plant and the Kwik Shoppe and that all results met the necessary requirements. Mr. Geschwindt asks if the 300 block of Park St. is included in the list of road repairs for this year, with President Kline stating that it is not. Mr. Geschwindt asks when the borough receives liquid fuels funding, with Ms. Wagner stating funds are received in April.

Mark Paine (25 Main St.): Notes that the grass has been cut at 17 Main St. and asks if any further progress has been made with the property. Solicitor Mooney has spoken with the bank's attorney, who has someone maintaining the grass. He further states that President Kline will sign the complaint and that the paperwork will be filed next week. The complaint states that the property owner has not responded to the borough's notices to fix or repair the building. It further asks the court, in equity, to allow the borough to take down the house. A sheriff will attempt to serve the owner for up to one month. The owner has 20 days to respond once the notice is received. If no answer is received, Solicitor Mooney will petition the court for special service, with the process taking 15-20 days. Afterwards, he will run the notice in the newspaper and have the property posted. The owner will then have 20 days to respond. Once the 20 days expires, the borough can take the matter to full judgment. By this time it will be November or December.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Zimmerman

- **401 Pine St:** The owner of 401 Pine St. has received multiple notices requesting them to cut their grass. Mr. Zimmerman asks how Council wishes to proceed. President Kline suggests sending another notice that would list the specific fine amount, as well as noting that they will be billed if the borough has to cut the grass. He and Solicitor Mooney state that the notice should be taped to the front door of the property as well as being mailed to the owner. Solicitor Mooney notes that the borough could cut the grass, cite the property owner, and place a lien against the property.
- **Parking behind 400 block Main St.:** The property owner at 454 Main St. rents out the house and rear garage to two different people. The individual renting the garage may be operating a vehicle repair shop at the location, as well as parking vehicles in the alley, which prohibits the flow of traffic on the road. He has spoken to the tenant numerous times regarding the vehicles, as well as sending notice to the property owner. The State Police will not address the matter. President Kline asks Mr. Zimmerman to contact a tow company to have the vehicles removed the next time they are in the road. Solicitor Mooney suggests reviewing the ordinance to see if Mr. Zimmerman is permitted to issue non-traffic citations.

- **Bell Trucking:** Mr. Zimmerman has spoken to Ms. Bell regarding the sign attached to the trailer parked along Route 61. She asked if the trailer could remain if the tires were removed. President Kline states that since a tarp is hanging on the trailer, it would change the intended use of the trailer, which would be against borough ordinance. The trailer could be parked in the parking lot and be moved on a regular basis. Mr. Zimmerman will speak with Ms. Bell.

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Mooney

- **Second St. Paving:** The PTMA solicitor would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the paving.
- **Sale of Pool Property:** Solicitor Mooney will be reviewing the agreement that was revised by Solicitor Koch.
- **Shoemakersville Municipal Authority:** Attorney Rauch has not heard from anyone on the authority for the last 2 years. He has no issue with renegotiating the lease and will contact the authority on the matter.
- **Perry Plaza:** President Kline has heard that Perry Plaza wishes to connect into the water system. This was not approved after their request last year, as the borough never received clarification on the calculations. PTMA may be connecting the plaza to the system. President Kline is waiting to hear back on an e-mail he sent to PTMA, their solicitor and Solicitor Mooney, requesting clarification on the matter, as the connection would be a violation of the current agreement. Solicitor Mooney states that the borough could get an injunction if they try to connect to the water system.

Engineer's Report – report will remain on file in office

- **Wolfe Dye & Bleach:** Mark Wolfe will be supplying potential meeting dates to President Kline. President Kline will forward a copy of the signed pretreatment ordinance to Mr. Wolfe
- **Scum Pump Replacement:** Upon review of the bids by the solicitor, some concerns were raised. ARRO is working with the solicitor and contractor to address these concerns.
- **Source Water Protection:** Additional information was sent to Council by DEP's consultant concerning items from the initial meeting. A geologist report and a list of potential sources of pollution were sent via email. A follow up meeting needs to be scheduled with the Council to continue to develop the plan.
- **Safe Drinking Water Act:** Engineer Smith refers to a memo he sent regarding DEP's new annual fee to run a water system. The fee is \$2,000 and is based upon the borough's direct bill population. Vice President Botwright states the fee is due on June 30 and will be calculated into the budget.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence

The next County Commissioners breakfast meeting will be on September 28 at Friendship Fire Co. in Birdsboro and has an RSVP date of September 19.

Public Works Report – Mr. Zimmerman

The area in the 600 block of Main St. was tested by the leak detection company, which noted that there is no water leak, but only surface water finding its way out. No one has complained of discolored water.

Mr. Zimmerman is working with Wexcon, who is performing the service work at Main & Miller Sts. Penndot included a manhole in the plan that is not needed. The service line was tested and found to be dead. He sent an e-mail to Penndot requesting that they seal off the dead service line.

Mr. Zimmerman would like to purchase two more digital meters for the wells, for a total approximate cost of \$2,000. The current metes can get stuck and lose water calculation time.

Vice President Botwright asks Mr. Zimmerman to remove the large branch near the driveway at the park.

Vice President Botwright received a resident concern regarding the condition of the roadway on the hill of Church Ave. near the fire company, leading to the township. Mr. Zimmerman is coordinating a time with Mr. Dietrich, as the work will require 3 people to complete. President Kline asks where the borough boundary line on Church Ave. is with Mr. Zimmerman noting it is at the white dashed line at the crest of the hill.

Mr. Zimmerman will contact Folk Paving to finalize a date for the patch work.

Operator's Report – Mr. Dietrich

Hach performed the quarterly servicing of equipment at the water plant. Mr. Dietrich participated in a DEP webinar regarding new regulations to the minimum chlorine residual required at any and every point in the system, at all times. He will contact UGI to be copied on the results of the samples taken at wells 4, 5, and 6, as Suburban is not able to supply the results directly to the borough, as the work order was placed under a different client.

Last month the new belts were delivered and replaced and are working well. More polymer needed to be ordered, due to the increased output of the belt press. Monthly rainfalls are being reported to the Berks Area Rainfall Network. In August the sewer plant record 14.25" of rain. The chlorine contact tank was drained and washed, chlorine cylinders were changed out, a delivery of chlorine cylinders was received, and the system was checked for leaks. Clarifier 2 will be partially drained to expose the scum troughs drain pipe, which has been leaking and back filling water into the trough.

President Kline notes that USGS has a monitoring station across the Bern Bridge that measures rain and water levels. People are able to subscribe and receive alerts when the river reaches whatever specified level is chosen.

Property/Streets/Sanitation Committee – Mr. Lesher

*A motion is made by Mr. Lesher to allow St. Luke's Church to close a portion of the 400 block of Peach St. on September 22 for their children's event. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Committee – President Kline

Mr. Dietrich states that the submersible pump used to pump sludge does not work and asks if anyone is aware of a local shop to repair the 3 year old pump. It would cost about \$700 to replace. Mr. Zimmerman will contact IEC on Main St. to discuss repairs.

President Kline notes of Enquip, who installed a headworks screening system at the Myerstown plant. Since Enquip is with Costars, no bidding was required. **Engineer Smith will speak to Myerstown and research Enquip.**

Water Committee – President Kline

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to purchase two well meters for a cost not to exceed \$2,200. Seconded by Mr. Lesher. Motion carried unanimously.

President Kline references his e-mail to Engineer Smith regarding the area purchased from King Realty. The buyer would like to install 2 wells in 12” casings and they are discussing putting in a treatment facility. A DEP permit is supposedly on its way. Engineer Smith states that the wells would not fall under DRBC jurisdiction unless they pull 1 million gallons/day. DEP would be involved if the water is for potable use. Council discusses how this could affect the borough’s water supply. **Engineer Smith will investigate the matter.**

Parks/Recreation – Vice President Botwright

The pool is closed for the season. President Kline has coordinated a meeting with the pool contractor and designer for a walk-through on September 17 at 1:00 p.m.

Law/Planning/Zoning – Vice President Botwright – no report

Employee Relations – President Kline

A temporary crossing guard will be needed from October – December at the Franklin St. & 4th St. intersection. A notice will be placed on the borough’s website and Facebook page.

Approvals/Finance/Pension – Vice President Botwright

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the minutes for August 21, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the bills payable for September 4, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adopt the 2019 MMO for the non-uniform pension plan for \$19,984. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adopt the 2019 MMO for the police pension plan for \$34,183. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Botwright will be sending out the budget worksheets and requests feedback by October 1.

Vice President Botwright will not be attending the September 18 meeting.

New Business

*A motion is made by Vice President Botwright to approve the 2018 per capita exonerations as listed. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

President Kline states that UGI is proposing to install a new gas line beginning at 5th & Peach Sts., down to Franklin St., north on Franklin St., west on Noble Ave., up Park St. over to the skate park, across the pool driveway and comes down along the grass median at 1011 Main St. and into Perry Township. The proposed route is about 2,500 linear feet. Council briefly discusses a street cut permit.

There being no further business, a motion is made by Vice President Botwright to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Leshner. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Melissa Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer